



CHORLEYWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL END OF TERM GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2012

Hello Everyone,

Despite a pesky power cut on 16th November that threatened to thwart preparations for the Christmas Market, the PTA were undeterred and managed to stage another excellent "Christmassy" event. Well done to them all for raising nearly £5,000! Many thanks to Mrs Bulley for masterminding the delivery of Christmas cards in and around Chorleywood once again this year and well done to the choir for their performance at the Christmas Festival on 7th December. The children's Christmas plays once again got us all in a very festive mood and I am always overwhelmed by the standard of the children's singing in particular!

This time last year we were not only preparing for Christmas but also beginning our post Ofsted plan. Thank you to everyone, staff and parents alike, for your enthusiasm and support. I continue to be involved in meetings between Mrs Roberts, Miss Dawson, other members of the Senior Leadership Team and our new HIP (Hertfordshire Improvement Partner), Mrs Sue Rayment, allocated to us by the Local Authority. Our latest progress meeting took place on 15th November, and although Mrs Rayment's report is not for general circulation, I would like to share some of her comments with you:

"Attainment has risen and is well above national levels. The SLT [Senior Leadership Team] have worked hard to ensure the accuracy of moderations ... Pupils' attainment is above national averages and floor standards are usually exceeded. Attainment in ALL subjects and Maths is significantly high. Attainment in English is above national averages ... data shows that the proportion of pupils exceeding expected progress is above that of all pupils nationally and it is projected to continue to rise."

Her interim reports over the coming year will form a basis for our preparation for any forthcoming Ofsted inspections and I'm sure you will agree that her comments are very positive and reflect the excellent work that is currently being done by teachers, teaching assistants and, of course, the children themselves. Another follow-up meeting is planned for February 2013.

You may remember that we had a parent governor election back in September. Mr Justin Beattie's 4-year term of office came to an end and he decided to stand again together with newcomer Mr Nitesh Patel. Amazingly, the votes resulted in a tie and Local Authority practice in these cases involves drawing lots. Consequently, Mr Nitesh Patel was chosen and we extend him a warm welcome to our panel of school governors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Justin for his previous service to the school. He is still a parent at the school and I'm sure he will still show a healthy and supportive interest in all that we achieve.

A very big thank you once again to every member of our school community for working so diligently and for their determination to succeed. Congratulations to Miss Dawson and her partner Mr Ryan Moore on the birth of baby Caoimhe (pronounced Keeva). Mother and baby are doing well. Grateful thanks and very best wishes for the future to Mrs Sheila Pickard who leaves us this term. Also to Mabel and Michelle who are moving on from our school kitchen. Thank you for all those lovely school dinners!

Unfortunately, after only one term with us our Year 5 Teacher Mr Craig Hamilton, will be leaving at Christmas due to personal circumstances and we wish him well in all his future endeavours. His replacement will be chosen this week and details of the new Year 5 teacher will be distributed as soon as is feasible.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
With warmest wishes

Carla Avis, Chair of Governors
(on behalf of all the Governors of Chorleywood Primary School)